



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
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Greetings –

We can all remember the challenges we faced as beginning teachers. Teacher mentor programs offer great potential to promote retention of quality teachers and, ultimately, to enhance student performance. Through intentional teacher mentor programs we can recruit and retain quality educators for Montana students.

The Statewide Mentor Taskforce has researched best-practice methods for teacher mentoring, created a common language for Montana mentors and mentor programs, and developed a template to assist school districts in designing a teacher mentor program.

The Taskforce has produced a CD template and Web page as a model for mentoring teachers in Montana schools. The information contained within the CD and Web page provides districts with an array of best-practice options for developing effective teacher mentor programs. Because Montana has such a diversity, a one size fits all mentor model would not work. Therefore, the Taskforce identified a variety of program options to meet the range of needs for Montana schools and districts. This flexibility will also allow districts to begin with a basic program and expand when additional resources become available.

Thank you for your interest in teacher mentoring and your commitment to promoting excellence in our schools.

Sincerely,

Nikki Sandve
Coordinator – State Personnel Development Grant